

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A radio communication terminal comprising:

input means for inputting a user instruction for setting said radio communication terminal to either one of first and second modes;

display means for displaying information corresponding to input of the user instruction, said display means displaying information at selective first brightness and second display brightness lower than the first display brightness;

setting means for setting said radio communication terminal to either one of the first and second modes in accordance with the input to said input means, and outputting a mode setting output; and

control means for controlling said display means, said control means causing said display means in the first mode to display information at the first display brightness during a first time period and at the second display brightness after a lapse of the first time period, and causing said display means in the second mode to display information at the first display brightness during a second time period longer than the first time period and at the second display brightness after a lapse of the second time period.

2. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein

said display means includes a display for displaying information visible at the second display

brightness, and illumination means for illuminating said display with a light beam to display information on said display at the first display brightness, and

5       said control means sets the first and second time periods in accordance with one set mode, and turns said illumination means on for either one of the set first and second time periods.

3. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein  
10       the first mode corresponds to a normal mode in which speech is made using said radio communication terminal, and the second mode corresponds to an information reception mode in which data is received via a radio channel, and

15       said control means sets the second time period when the information reception mode corresponding to the second mode is selected.

4. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein  
20       the first mode corresponds to a normal mode in which speech is made using said radio communication terminal, and the second mode corresponds to a mail creation mode in which mail is created via said input means, and

25       said control means sets the second time period when an information reception mode corresponding to the mail creation mode is selected.

5. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein  
      the first mode corresponds to a normal mode in

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which speech is made using said radio communication terminal, and the second mode corresponds to a mail browsing mode in which mail is browsed via said input means, and

5           said control means sets the second time period when an information reception mode corresponding to the mail browsing mode is selected.

6. A terminal according to claim 1, wherein said control means includes update means for, when a new  
10       user input is supplied during either one of the first and second time periods, updating said one time period.

7. A method of controlling display means in a radio communication terminal having the display means for displaying information corresponding to input of  
15       a user instruction, the display means displaying information at selective first brightness and second display brightness lower than the first display brightness, comprising:

20       the step of inputting a user instruction for setting the radio communication terminal to either one of first and second modes;

25       the step of setting the radio communication terminal to either one of the first and second modes in accordance with the input, and outputting a mode setting output; and

      the control step of controlling the display means, the control step including causing the display means in

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the first mode to display information at the first display brightness during a first time period and at the second display brightness after a lapse of the first time period, and causing the display means in the second mode to display information at the first display brightness during a second time period longer than the first time period and at the second display brightness after a lapse of the second time period.

8. A method according to claim 7, further comprising the update step of, when a new user input is supplied during the first and second time periods, updating the time periods.

9. A method according to claim 7, wherein the first mode corresponds to a normal mode in which speech is made using the radio communication terminal, and the second mode corresponds to one of an information reception mode in which information is received via a radio channel, a mail creation mode in which mail is created, and a mail browsing mode in which mail is browsed, and

the control step includes setting the second time period when the second mode is set.

10. A method of controlling a terminal having a display section which can display information visible at one of a brightness mode and a darkness mode in response to a key input, comprising steps of:

setting the brightness mode to have a first time

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period in response to the key input;

setting the brightness mode to have a second time period longer than the first time period in response to a predetermined key input for setting the terminal to

5 have a predetermined function;

maintaining the brightness mode during the one of the first and second time periods, which is previously set;

10 resetting the brightness mode to have the one time period to continue the brightness mode during the one time period; and

switching the brightness mode to the darkness mode after a lapse of the one time period, the first time period and second time period.

15 11. A method according to claim 10, wherein the predetermined function corresponds to one of a wireless application protocol mode for displaying data received from the outside of the terminal, and a mail mode for sending or receiving mail from the outside of the  
20 terminal.

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